Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 11645 111537Z
ACTION EUR-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 /004 W
----------096827 111544Z /46
P 111455Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 889

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 11645

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FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. REGARDING THE DOCTOR'S THEORY ABOUT MINOR SURGERY WHICH BREZHNEV MAY HAVE UNDERGONE IN EARLY JULY, THE AMBASSADOR DID NOT NOTICE A SCAR ON THE LEFT SIDE OF LEONID IL'ICH'S FACE DURING THEIR BRIEF ENCOUNTER JULY 8. WE MAY BE ABLE TO PICK UP ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON HIS HEALTH FROM OUR CONTACTS IN THE YUGOSLAV EMBASSY, IN CONNECTION WITH THE FORTHCOMING TITO VISIT.

2. THERE IS NOTHING NEW ON INCREASES IN APARTMENT RENTS FOR EMBASSIES BEYOND THAT WHICH WE REPORTED IN PARA 3 OF MOSCOW'S 11290. WE, ALONG WITH THE AUSTRALIANS, BRITISH, IRISH, CANADIANS, GERMANS AND A GOOD MANY OTHERS, OFFERED IN JUNE AND JULY TO NEGOTIATE WITH UPDK CONCERNING THE RENT INCREASE AND LEASE CONDITIONS FOR APARTMENTS. AS OF THIS WEEK UPDK HAS NOT ENTERED NEGOTIATIONS WITH ANY OF THE LARGER EMBASSIES. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT CHECKED EVERYONE, WE BELIEVE THAT FEW IF ANY EMBASSIES ARE NEGOTIATING WITH UPDK. WITH THE INCREASE IN RENTS FOR CHANCERIES AND/OR AMBASSADORIAL RESIDENCES
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NOW ADDED INTO THE EQUATION, MOST EMBASSIES WILL PROBABLY PAY AT THE OLD RATES, OFFER TO NEGOTIATE AND AWAIT UPDK'S RESPONSE.
TOON

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NNN

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